

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Mail Stop: Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO THE NOVEMBER 30, 2009 OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Office Action dated November 30, 2009 in the above-referenced application. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims. It is respectfully submitted that entry of the following Response will place the pending claims in condition for allowance.

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Applicants hereby submit a petition for an extension of time of three months for submitting a response to the Office Action dated November 30, 2009 in the above-referenced application pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a). A shortened statutory period of three months was set in the Office Action and expired on February 30, 2010. Thus, with a three-month extension, a response to the November 30, 2009 Office Action is timely if filed on or before June 1, 2010, since May 30, 2010 is a Sunday and May 31, 2010 is a Federal holiday. In connection with this petition, please find payment in the amount of \$1110.00 submitted herewith pursuant to 37

C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(3). If there are any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge these additional fees (or credit any overpayment) to Deposit Account No. 13-0019.

LISTING OF CLAIMS begins on page 3.

REMARKS begin on page 8.

CONCLUSION begins on page 12.